Indian Ocean Tuna Commission

2410. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission has offered diverse facilties for Indian fishing sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a delegation of officials is visiting the Commission to confirm and ensure that India gets share of tuna resources in the Indian Ocean;

(c) the agenda for discussion with the India Ocean Tuna Commission at the next meeting;

(d) whether the talks till be upgraded to the Ministerial level to decide critical issues affecting the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The agenda for discussion in the next meeting of Indian Ocean Tuna Commission have hot yet been received.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Ministerial level talks are not held in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Private-Public partnership in Agriculture

2411. SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently mooted the idea of private-public partnership in agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the idea is likely to be given shape?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) has emphasized on public private partnership (PPP) in the development of agriculture. The areas in which the private sector could play an important role include horticulture development, development of agricultural marketing infrastructure, development of storage facilities, seed production and distribution, and provision of extension services.

The issue of PPP has been deliberated at various fora in the recent past and several areas in this regard have been focused, such as redefining Government intervention to make Indian agriculture demand driven, propagation of the success stories of the private section in their initiatives to raise incomes of farmers and partnering with farmers, achieving higher levels of public investment in agriculture infrastructure, food safety, cold chain, research and development, and agriculture extension services.

Funds for agriculture sector

f2412. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by Government for agriculture sector during the Tenth five Year Plan, State-wise, particularly to Bihar and Maharashtra; and

(b) the amount released and utilized by the States, so far, especially by Maharashtra and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The amount of funds allocated and released under production oriented Centrally Sponsored Scheme, State-wise, including and Bihar and Maharashtra, as also the amount utilized during the Tenth Five Year Plan, Year-wise, is given at attached Statement.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.